

tees, old and new, before increasing the number. The number of non-official members has been largely increased in all the Committees, and they now constitute the majority in every one of them, as the following figures will shew :—

Name of Committee.	Total number of members, excluding the President.	Number of officials.	Number of non-officials.
Trivandrum ...	10	3	7
Kottayam ...	9	3	6
Nagercoil ...	9	3	6
Quilon ...	9	3	6
Alleppey ...	9	3	6
Alwaye ...	9	3	6
Kayankulam ...	9	2	7
Thiruvalla ...	9	2	7
Vaikom ...	9	3	6
Shencotta ...	9	2	7
Colachel ...	9	2	7
Padmanabhapuram ...	9	2	7
Changanacherri ...	9	2	7
Parur ...	9	2	7
Neyyattinkara ...	9	2	7
Kuzhithura ...	9	2	7
Mavelikara ...	9	2	7
Haripad ...	9	2	7
Attingal ...	9	2	7

Also, in the older Committees of Nagercoil, Trivandrum, Quilon, Alleppey and Kottayam, and the new Committees of Shencotta and Kayankulam, the non-official members are now being wholly elected by the rate-payers. The powers of the Committees in regard to financial matters have been widened; and the Government grants to them have been guaranteed for a period of five years. So far, the work of most of the Committees is characterised by an amount of caution and sobriety which augurs well for their future. Taking all the Committees together, they began with a balance of Rs. 30,200, received Government grants aggregating to Rs. 42,200, raised by local taxation Rs. 63,400, expended Rs. 94,300, and closed with a balance of Rs. 41,500. The receipts from local taxation alone rose from Rs. 42,500 in 1087 to Rs. 63,400 in 1088.

22. **Medical.**—There were no changes worth mentioning in the Medical Department or in the management of the Vaidyasalas.

EDUCATION.

23. Education made progress during the year. The total number of the recognised schools rose from 1,698 to 1,763, and their strength from 1,78,775 pupils to 2,04,971. Of the total number of the recognised schools, about half the number, 828, were departmental institutions, and they accounted for 65% of the total strength. Taking the school-going population as 15% of the total population, 40% of the children of school-going age were under instruction in a recognised school, against 35% in the previous year. There was a strengthening of the Government schools of all grades during the year. Two new Professors were secured for His Highness the Maha Raja's College and steps were taken for organising the Honors' Courses in English Literature and History in that college. In the secondary schools, the liberal revision of the salaries of the teachers, sanctioned at the close of 1087, was brought into effect during the year, and it attracted a large number of graduates and trained teachers to these schools. The revision of the staff of the elementary schools was

continued, and four more taluks were completed, so that, at the end of the year, 18 out of the 33 taluks of the State had been revised. The Government also opened a large number of new elementary schools. A liberal scheme of scholarships was sanctioned for the colleges and secondary schools, the benefits of which were thrown open to the private as well as to the Government institutions. Female education made progress, the total number of girls under instruction rising from 49,208 to 57,137, a particularly pleasing feature being the increase of the girls in the colleges from 18 to 30, and those in the secondary schools from 1,090 to 1,408. The licensing of teachers was continued, so many as 1,403 new licenses being issued during the year, the total number of licensed teachers at the close of the year working up to 6,912. The inspecting agency was strengthened to cope with the increasing volume of work. In the result, the gross expenditure on Education went up by over three lacs of rupees, as the following figures will show :—

Heads.	1087. Rs.	1088. Rs.
Controlling agencies	96,595	1,06,299
Departmental schools	6,33,244	9,44,199
Private ,,	1,79,801	1,77,788
Miscellaneous	46,311	56,164
Total.....	9,55,951	12,84,450

But, notwithstanding what has been already done and the increase in the expenditure already incurred, I feel that the State is but at the threshold of a great deal more of development and outlay, if adequate educational facilities are to be provided for all the children in it, and I would invite your serious attention to what I say on the subject in para 244 of the Administration Report. You would see that, between 1080 and 1088, the expenditure on education has gone up by over 200%, but we have succeeded, so far, in getting under instruction in the recognised schools only 40% of the school-going population. That instruction in such schools is not being given to a much larger number is not, by any means, due to any unwillingness on the part of any section of the people to send their children to school. Whatever may be the state of affairs elsewhere, the problem just now in Travancore is not to devise means for compelling an unwilling people to send their children to school, but to provide a sufficient number of good schools for the willing children—for girls as well as for boys. The Education Budget of 1089 works up to Rs. 16½ lacs, and the expenditure will most likely go up to Rs. 20 lacs in 1090. The Government are face to face with a problem of considerable difficulty—how to provide, with as little delay as possible, a sufficient number of suitable elementary schools. It would, of course, be fatal to extend any recognition to those schools, which, for non-compliance with the Code, are now treated as of no account; and I would earnestly deprecate any relaxation of the Code, with consequent lowering of efficiency, for the purpose of increasing the *volume* of education. What is wanted is an increase in the volume, with the *quality* remaining unimpaired. It is mainly a question of funds. The only feasible solution appears to be to create local bodies to finance and manage the elementary schools, the local bodies receiving for the purpose substantial grants from the Government, the latter continuing to be responsible for inspection and ultimate control. A comprehensive law is being drafted, covering the whole field of Education, which would make provision for the rapid development of public instruction in the State.

24. While on the subject of Education, I would mention the action taken by the Government last August, to appoint a Committee to enquire into and report on the subject of education in the vernacular. This subject had been pressed on the Government in successive years by the Assembly, and the Government felt that the whole question required careful looking into, and they therefore appointed a Committee, with Dewan Bahadur A. Govinda Pillai as President, to investigate into and report upon it. The Committee have sent up their report, copies of which will now

be distributed to the Members. I am sure that you will find the report both interesting and instructive, and His Highness has commanded that the views of some select Members shall be taken on the report.

RELIGIOUS AND CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

25. Devaswoms.—Action was taken during the year to credit to the Devaswoms the revenue from their lands, which had previously merged in the general land revenue of the State. We have now, for the first time, a definite idea of what the net expenditure incurred on the Devaswoms is. The following are the figures for 1088 :—

Revenue.		Expenditure.	
1. Devaswom lands	Rs. 3,86,385	1. Establishment and allowances	Rs. 17,634
2. Offerings	„ 33,793	2. Major Devaswoms	„ 10,44,077
3. Adiyara	„ 2,031	3. Minor Devaswoms	„ 64,052
4. Receipts from Sri-pandaravagai	„ 5,618	4. Grants to temples outside the State	„ 14,746
5. Sale of surplus provisions	„ 5,128	5. Sri Pandaravagai	„ 12,206
6. Sale proceeds of old stores and materials	„ 1,157	6. Other items	„ 26,567
7. Other items	„ 22,280		
Total Rs. 4,56,392		Total Rs. 11,79,282	

You will see from the above that the net expenditure of 1088 was Rs. 7,22,890. The Government apprehend that the separation of the Devaswom land revenue from the Sirkar land revenue has not yet been completely effected, and arrangements are being made for a scrutiny of the lists, so that, omissions, if any, may be detected and rectified. Also, the Government will bear in mind that their position in regard to the Devaswom lands is fundamentally different from their position in regard to their own lands, and as stated in G. O. No. 4905, dated the 25th October 1912, when the next settlement is taken up, it will be the duty of the Government so to regulate it in regard to the Devaswom lands that the Devaswoms should get the full revenue due to them. Also, I may mention that the establishment and contingent expenditure of all the Devaswoms is now being revised, and scrupulous care is being taken to avoid all waste. But, notwithstanding all that may be done for developing the revenue of the Devaswoms and for economising their expenditure, there can be very little doubt that, for a very long time to come, the expenditure on the Devaswoms would be substantially in excess of their receipts; and I would, therefore, on behalf of His Highness' Government, say, that, for the reasons given in the order of October 1912, the Government would supplement the Devaswom revenue, from the general revenues of the State, to such an extent as may, from time to time, be necessary to ensure the efficient maintenance of the Devaswoms.

26. Charities.—The expenditure on Charities went down; I am glad to say, still further in 1088. It was Rs. 3,59,000, to which it had come, by continual retrenchment, from Rs. 6,45,000 in 1084. As pointed out by me in my report, the expenditure in 1088 was lower than what it ever was after 1064, and when it is remembered that the prices of all provisions have so very considerably gone up during the intervening period of 23 years, the volume of the retrenchment will be realised.